**Nile Basin Development Challenge (NBDC)**

**Nile 2**: Rainwater management strategies, policies and institutions

**Draft Training Concept Note for Local Partners**

**Date from 18 -20 March 2013**

**Background:**

**Innovation Platforms**

To strengthen the planning and implementation of rainwater management strategies at local level, the NBDC has supported the establishment of Innovation Platforms (IPs) in its three study areas (Jeldu, Diga and Fogera woredas). IPs brings together local stakeholders with an interest in RWM and aim to facilitate collaborative working on RWM. Their purpose is to build on existing local capacities and knowledge, linking these with external support and research, to develop new, locally-appropriate solutions to RWM challenges, as well as building the conditions for long-term collaborative relationships.

**Capacity Building for Local Facilitators**

At the end of 2013, after one year, ILRI is devolving the facilitation role of local IPs to local Institutions for its sustainability. The three local IP activities are now being facilitated by local Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) found at their vicinity. These NGOs are named HUNDEE at Jeldu, EECMY (Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus) at Diga and Ethio Wet Land at Fogera. A partnership agreement was signed by IWMI with the national head office of each of the three NGOs. The agreement was made to transfer the facilitation of regular IP meetings and administer the local Innovation Funds for the IP’s action research projects on fodder development to solve the problem of soil erosion and land degradation.

Based on the agreement with each of the local organizations the head office of each organization will communicate their local offices and assign a local facilitator for the IP activities. The local facilitators will be responsible for not only the administration of the fund but also closely facilitate and work together with the IP members on the pilot project and organize regular meetings so that s/he will compile an activity report and financial report to their head office and then to ILRI.

We documented some lessons where each organization has different approaches in executing their responsibilities according to the partnership agreement and also we found that the communication between the head office and their local office with regard to this specific activity is week. We have also seen that the way the local facilitators are working together with the IP members is also different. The local facilitator is expected to work mainly with the contact person of IP members who are key partners as they are responsible in organizing the meeting and mobilizing IP members to take part in joint actions on behalf of government and community representatives.

Therefore, ILRI is planning to improve the communication skill of the key actors in the IP and also improve their facilitation skill in organizing IP meetings and consulting communities to participate in the pilot RWM intervention. Therefore, we found this it is very important to bring each local facilitators and IP contact persons from the three sites to here at ILRI to take part in a two days training on facilitation skills, communication skills and community participation approaches. We would like to take the chance of their coming together from the three sites here at ILRI to create an environment for them to share and learn lessons from each other on their approaches and achievements to involve farmers in their respective pilot projects. The communication between the local facilitators, their respective head office supervisor and with the local IP’s contact person will be also improve and.

A total of 15 trainees, five from each local site and three from the head office of the local facilitating organizations, will participate in this training. The composition of the trainees include three local facilitators, three contact person, three TG members and three head office supervisors for the local facilitating organizations. The technical training will be provided for the technical groups who are coming from the local level but the head office supervisors will join on the first day of introduction of the IP and Pilot project followed by experience sharing session and building communication among partners. Then the next day is mainly for local facilitators for half day training on participator approach and half day field visit to have a conversation with farmers involved in Farmers Research Group, for instance Holeta Research Centre and its researchers coordinating the FRG. The field day will help the trainees to understand the process followed in consulting and working together with the farmers research group to practically see how participatory approaches will help them to be effective in their pilot projects in their respective areas.

The trainers will be identified but we thought also English language might be a difficult media for the local trainers mainly for the contact persons of the IPs. We are thinking Aberra, Zelalem, Gerba and at some point Beth/Ewen might give the training on the different sessions. We have Gerba to provide training on PRA tool and also Gezahegn from Holeta ARC who will give training on the Farmers Research Group (FRG) and Holeta ARC’ experience in FRG. We are also going to have Gezahegn from Holeta ARC who will train on the participatory approach of research using Farmers Research Group (FRG) from Holeta experience.

For the experience and lesson sharing among the three sites we are communicating the IP contact person and local facilitators to prepare a presentation on the process they follow up on the pilot projects starting from prioritizing the problems to the current status of their joint action on the pilot project of fodder development. These will create an environment for the trainees to understand one another and also to see how the different approaches are resulting in different successes.

**Draft Agenda**

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| **Day 1 (18 /05/13)** | **Topics** | **Responsible** | **Facilitator** |
| 8:30-9:00 | Registration | Tiruwork | Zelalem |
| 9:00 – 9:10 | Opening speech | Alan /Beth |
| 9:10-9:30 | Self-introduction of participants and setting of their expectations | All |
| 10:00 – 10:40 | NBDC/Nile 2/IP process | Abera/Beth |
| 10:40-11:00 | Reflection | All |
| 11:00 – 11:20 | Coffee Break |  |  |
| 11:20 – 12:00 | Brief presentation of the pilot intervention experience of the three sites (what was done, how and what lessons can we learn) | Debela/Temesgen/ Kaffe | Gerba |
| 12:00- 12:30 | Reflection | All |
| 12:30 – 2:00 | Lunch |  |  |
| 2:00 – 2:40 | Brief presentation of 2013 action plan on pilot intervention | Dr. Mussie/Andenet/Dandy | Aberra |
| 2:40 – 3:00 | Reflection on the action plans | All |
| 3:00- 3:20 | Break |  |
| 3:20-5:30 | IP facilitation | Zelalem/Ewen |
| **Day 2 (19/05/13)** |  |  |  |
| 9:00-9:30 | Brief Presentation on Action Research and Participatory research (community engagement) | Beth Cullen | Zelalem |
| 9:30-10:00 | Experience of UNEP experience at Kabe watershed ( lessosn from introduction of cut and carry system) | Dr. Kindu |
| 10:00-10:30 | Reflection on both presentations | All |
| 10:30-11:00 | Coffee Break |  |  |
| 11:00-12:00 | PRA tool | Gerba | Dr. Kindu |
| 12:00- 12:30 | Group work on PRA | Zelalem/Abera/Gerba |
| 12:30-1:30 | Lunch |  |  |
| 1:30-2:00 | Continue Group work | Zelalem/Abera/Gerba |  |
| 2:00-2:30 | Presentation of Group work | Each group representative |  |
| 2:30-3:10 | FRG and Holeta Experience on FRG | Gezahegn Kebede (Holeta ARC) |  |
| 3:10-3:30 | Reflection | All |  |
| 3:30-10:00 | Reflection on their expectation and closing | Beth |  |
| 10:00 | Coffee Break |  |  |
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| **Day 3 (19/05/2013)** | Field visit to Holeta ARC’s FRG sites | Gezahegn Kebede |  |

**List of trainees and their contact**

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| **No** |  | **Organization** | **From** | **Contact** |
| 1 | Tibebu Seifu | Jeldu Woreda Livestock Agency | Jeldu | 0912208151 |
| 2 | Alemneh | Jeldu Woreda Livestock Agency |  | 0910896550 |
| 3 | Temesgen Assefa | HUNDEE local NGO |  | 0923605454 |
| 4 | Gezahegn Kebede | Holeta ARC |  | 0911839646 |
| 5 | Andenet Deresse | Ambo University |  | 0911890912 |
| 6 | Belay Dejen | Fogera Woreda Livestock Agency |  | 0918094921 |
| 7 | Kaffe Minale | Ethio-Wetlands |  | 0918706794 |
| 8 | Tewdros Bimerow | Andasa Livestock RC |  | 0918788329 |
| 9 | Dr. Musse H/Melekot | Bahir Dar University |  | 0918700333 |
| 10 | Brihanu Agumas | Adet ARC |  | 0911068877 |
| 11 | Azmeraw Minlargeleh | Fogera Woreda Office of Agriculture |  | 0918280930 |
| 12 | Gutema Bekri | Diga Woreda Livestock Agency |  | 0917370206 |
| 13 | Zelalem Desta | Diga Woreda Office of Agr and Rural Development |  | 0911068384 |
| 14 | Debela Kenea | EECMY (Mekane Yesus) NGO |  | 0926770308 |
| 15 | Dandy Temesgen | Wolega University |  | 0922215362 |
| 16 | Wekgari Keba | Bako Agr. Research Centre |  | 0912048503 |
| 17 | Zegeye Asfaw | HUNDEE General Manager |  |  |
| 18 | Afework Hailu | Ethio-Wetland Excutive Director |  | 0115527791 |
| 19 | Dr. Abeya Wakwoya | EECMY |  |  |